

Bryant, Darlene

From: Jacques-Yarde, Marchelle - Parks Dept
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 11:15 AM
Subject: Open Space Plan 2015-2021 Panel & Discussion -- PLEASE SHARE

OPEN SPACE PANEL AND DISCUSSION AT BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY NOVEMBER 13

Boston Parks Commissioner Antonia M. Pollak hosts an open space panel and discussion entitled "The Future We Want - Exploring Uses and Values of Public Open Space in Boston" on Wednesday, November 13, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Commonwealth Room at the Boston Public Library Central Library in Copley Square.

Inspired by the United Nation's Six Minute Speech Initiative on the "Future We Want," experts from throughout Boston will discuss the role of public open space in supporting a wide range of public interests for individuals, the community, and the broader environment. Come join in the discussion of how open spaces can enhance the quality of life in Boston and help plan for the city's future.

The City of Boston is preparing a new citywide Open Space Plan for the years 2015 to 2021. Open space planning takes on a special significance in cities where open land is scarce, needs are high, and competition to use green spaces is fierce. The Open Space Plan looks at the broad range of uses and values of urban open space from local playgrounds to rare ecosystems. The discussion between the panelists and the public will be one part of the Plan's public participation process.

Speakers and topics are as follows: Panel Moderator, Boston Parks Commissioner Antonia M. Pollak; "Promoting Public Health," Anne McHugh, Director, Chronic Disease Prevention and Control, Boston Public Health Commission; "Benefiting the Environment," Brian Swett, Chief of Environment and Energy, City of Boston; "Supporting Athletics and Team Building," Garin L. Veris, Director of External Business Development and Marketing UMass Boston Athletics; "Encouraging Community Building, Play and Learning," Kelly Pellagrini, Parks Activist and Co-Founder Charlestown Nursery School; and "Connecting People to Nature and Natural Systems," Valerie J. Burns, President, Boston Natural Areas Network

For more information please call the Boston Parks and Recreation Department at (617) 961-3033.

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